

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 02075 290007Z
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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2075

FROM LOS DEL

FOR D.LOS MR. HODSOLL

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLOS
SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

1. ENGO, PAUL BAMELA (CAMEROON)- TECHNICAL COUNSELOR,
FOREIGN MINISTRY (SINCE 1973); AN INTERNATIONAL LAWYER
WITH EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE IN LAW OF THE SEA (LOS) MATTERS,
PAUL ENGO TOOK SOLE CHARGE OF CAMEROON'S LOS AFFAIRS
WHEN HE ASSUMED HIS CURRENT POST IN 1973. THOUGH HE
IS TECHNICALLY THE FOURTH-RANKING OFFICIAL IN THE FOREIGN
MINISTRY, HE APPARENTLY HAS NO DUTIES BEYOND LOS
MATTERS AND APPEARS TO CARRY LITTLE WEIGHT OUTSIDE HIS
OWN AREA WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT. SINCE DECEMBER 1973
ENGO HAS BEEN CHAIRMAN OF THE FRISTCOMMITTEE (DEEP
SEABED MINING) OF THE UN LOS CONFERENCE, AND HE HAS
BEEN ACTIVE IN THE INTERSESSIONAL WORK OF THE COMMITTEE.
HE HAS ATTENDED ALL OF THE SUBSTANTIVE SESSIONS
OF THE THIRD UN LOS CONFERENCE. WHEN HE WAS MINISTER-
COUNSELOR OF THE PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS
(1968-73), ENGO SERVED ON THE UN SEABED COMMITTEE (1969-73)
AND WAS CONSIDERED ITS MOST KNOWLEDGEABLE AFRICAN MEMBER.

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PAGE 02 USUN N 02075 290007Z

ENGO IS THOROUGHLY IMBUED WITH THE THIRD WORLD--PARTICULARLY
AFRICAN--VIEWPOINT AND INSISTS ON THE PRIMACY OF THE
LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND OF AFRICAN SOLIDARITY; AT
THE SAME TIME, HE IS AN IDEALIST ABOUT THE NEED, FOR
HUMANITY'S SAKE, FOR NONIDEOLOGICAL, PRAGMATIC SOLUTIONS
TO THE MYRIAD ISSUES INVOLVED IN LOS NEGOTIATIONS.
PEERSONAL DATA: AFTER RECEIVING A LAW DEGREE FROM

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY, ENGO WAS CALLED TO THE BAR IN THE UNITED KINGDOM (MIDDLE TEMPLE INN) IN 1959. HE IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE BAR IN CAMEROON AND IN NIGERIA. HE SUBSEQUENTLY HELD VARIOUS POSITIONS IN THE LEGAL FIELD, BOTH IN NIGERIA AND IN CAMEROON; IN 1964 HE ASSUMED HIS FIRST DIPLOMATIC POST, THAT OF COUNSELOR OF THE CAMEROON EMBASSY IN BONN. ENGO'S NEXT POSITION WAS AS COUNSELOR IN WASHINGTON FROM 1965 TO 1968. HE WAS PROMOTED TO MINISTER PLENI-POTENTIARY IN 1969 WHILE AT THE UNITED NATIONS. A MEMBER OF THE SIXTH COMMITTEE (LEGAL) OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY FROM THE TIME HE ARRIVED IN THE UNITED STATES IN 1965 UNTIL HE LEFT HIS UN POST IN 1973, HE WAS ELECTED ITS CHAIRMAN IN 1970.

INTELLIGENT AND JOVIAL, ENGO, 45 IS VERY TALKATIVE. HE IS DIVORCED FROM HIS AMERICAN WIFE, WHOM HE MARRIED IN 1958. THEY HAVE FOUR CHILDREN. ENGLISH IS ENGO'S NATIVE LANGUAGE.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

1959-61 - CROWN COUNSEL, LEGAL DEPARTMENT, LAGOS, NIGERIA, AND LEGAL DEPARTMENT IN CAMEROON; 1961-63 - MEMBER, MAGISTERIAL BENCH FOR SOUTHERN CAMEROONS; 1961-64 - MEMBER FEDERAL JUDICIAL COMMISSION, CAMEROON; 1964-65 - COUNSELOR, EMBASSY, BONN; 1965-68 - COUNSELOR, EMBASSY, WASHINGTON; 1968-73 - COUNSELOR, THEN MINISTER, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 USUN N 02075 290007Z

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS; 1973 TO DATE - TECHNICAL COUNSELOR, FOREIGN MINISTRY.
25 APRIL, 1977.

2. BEESLEY, (JOHN) ALAN (CANADA) - ASSISTANT UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE, DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SINCE SEPTEMBER 1976). ALAN BEESLEY IS CANADA'S FOREMOST EXPERT ON THE LAW OF THE SEA (LOS). HE WAS AMBASSADOR TO AUSTRIA FROM 1973 UNTIL 1976, BUT HE ALSO TOOK TIME TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF HIS COUNTRY'S DELEGATIONS TO THE CARACAS (1974), GENEVA (1975) AND NEW YORK (1976) SESSIONS OF THE THIRD UN LOS CONFERENCE. WHEN BEESLEY RETURNED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS IN OTTAWA, IT WAS PARTLY TO FACILITATE HIS CONTACT WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S LOS STAFF. (IN VIENNA HE HAD OPERATED ALMOST INDEPENDENTLY OF THE DEPARTMENT, AND THE REASSIGNMENT PROBABLY ALSO REFLECTED A DESIRE TO KEEP HIM ON A SHORTER LEASH.) IN HIS CURRENT POST HE SERVES AS A DE FACTO LEGAL ADVISER TO THE DEPARTMENT.

AN ARDENT AND FORCEFUL NATIONALIST, BEESLEY IS NOT PARTICULARLY DISPOSED TO BE GENTLE WITH THE UNITED

STATES. ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS HE HAS TAKEN A HARD
LINE DURING CONFRONTATIONS BETWEEN THIS COUNTRY
AND CANADA ON LOS MATTERS, AND HE HAS SOMETIMES TREATED
US VIEWS UNFAIRLY. IN THE PAST, US OFFICIALS HAVE
SUSPECTED THAT HE WAS BEHIND MOVES TO UNDERMINE US
NEGOTIATING POSITIONS. ON THE RARE OCCASIONS
WHEN THE CABINET HAS OVERRULED HIM, HE HAS BEEN FURIOUS.

BEESELY, 49, IS INTELLIGENT AND ARTICULATE AND
CAN BE CHARMING. HE CAN ALSO BE A TOUGH, DETERMINED
AND FREQUENTLY ARGUMENTATIVE NEGOTIATOR. A CANADIAN
NEWSPAPER HAS DESCRIBED HIM AS "NO SHRINKING VIOLET,"
ADDING THAT HIS "QUIET, HIGH-PITCHED VOICE AND
DEFERENTIAL MANNER CONCEAL A TOUGH SINGLENESS OF
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PAGE 04 USUN N 02075 290007Z

PURPOSE, BLENDED WITH PRAGMATISM, FUNCTIONALISM AND
FLEXIBILITY." MARRIED TO THE FORMER RUTH STEVENS,
BEESELY HAS TWO CHILDREN. HE SPEAKS FRENCH.
LEONARD

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